

DDRS ADVISORY COUNCIL

8-6-14

PRESENT: Chris St. Paul, Kim Opsahl, Nicole Norvell, Cathy Robinson, Kylee Hope, John Dickerson, Kelly Hartman, Teresa Grossi, Richard Wherry, Julie Reynolds and Jill Ginn

FACILITATOR: Dawn Downer

RECORDER: Robin M. Stearns, Administrative Secretary II, Provider Relations

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Quarterly Provider Meeting Update	Dawn provided the council with a brief update of the most recent Quarterly Provider Meeting. The turnout was fantastic and the information shared from Providers is currently being analyzed and will be utilized to improve services for the people we serve.	Planning for the next meeting is currently underway. Council members are encouraged to send suggestions and/or their thoughts to Dawn for future meetings.
FSSA/DDRS Updates	Dr. John Wennert has been named the new Secretary of FSSA replacing Debra Minnott. Dr. Wennert assumed his duties on July 21 st . Michael Gargano, former FSSA Secretary, has been named as the Deputy Director to the Secretary.	Informational.
First Steps Update	We used the recent provider meeting to gather input around programmatic areas to improve areas that fall under our federal reporting requirements. Areas of concern identified include: provider recruitment and retention, family engagement and suggestions to enhance our service model. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the transitioning from First Steps into the next level of services. It was the consensus of this group that the key to successful transitions much include appropriate communication with family members. We need to know what the family's vision of the future is for the individual other than just getting a waiver. We will begin this process by looking at existing resources.	Council members are encouraged to contact Cathy with specific questions or concerns.
BQIS Updates	Anne is out of the office today and updates will be provided at the next meeting.	Deferred until September 3 rd .
BRS Updates and Supported Employment Follow Along (SEFA)	Restructuring continues in the field offices. The VR Symposium is scheduled for September 10 th and 11 th and the theme is "Focus on Fundamentals". The rate reforms continued to be reviewed and there is a meeting scheduled for August 7 th to look at the INARF recommendations. It was requested council members not share information distributed regarding the SEFA waiver. A discussion was held regarding the proactive planning underway to focus on understanding their individual needs. This is not a policy change but rather a practice change. Through this process cultural changes have been made we are now more upfront in the discovery phase in terms of job shadowing and understanding the labor market and where we fit in.	Continued updates will be provided as appropriate.
BDDS Update and Feedback on the Transition Plan	Due to time constraints, updates will be provided at the next meeting.	Deferred until September 3 rd .
Next Meeting	The next Advisory Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3 rd at 10:00 a.m.	Informational.